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Security Council

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Letter dated 18 December 2017 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2017. The report, which was approved by the Committee, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

I should be grateful if the present letter and the report were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Kairat **Umarov**
Chair
Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions
751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea

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Report of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017.

2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Kairat Umarov (Kazakhstan) as Chair and the representatives of Egypt and Japan as Vice-Chairs.

II. Background

3. By its resolution 733 (1992), the Security Council imposed a general and complete arms embargo on Somalia, and by its resolution 751 (1992), the Council established a committee to oversee the implementation of the embargo. Subsequently, in its resolutions 1356 (2001), 1425 (2002), 1744 (2007), 1772 (2007), 1846 (2008), 1851 (2008), 1916 (2010), 2060 (2012), 2093 (2013), 2111 (2013), 2142 (2014), 2182 (2014), 2244 (2015), 2317 (2016) and 2385 (2017), the Council introduced exemptions to and further defined the scope of the embargo.

4. By its resolution 1425 (2002), the Security Council established the Panel of Experts on Somalia, which was succeeded by the Monitoring Group established by its resolution 1519 (2003). By paragraphs 1, 2 and 7 of its resolution 1844 (2008), the Council imposed targeted measures (a travel ban, an asset freeze and a targeted arms embargo) on individuals and entities designated by the Committee. In the same resolution, the Council also introduced certain exemptions to those measures. In its resolution 2036 (2012), the Council imposed a ban on the direct or indirect import of charcoal from Somalia, whether or not the charcoal originated in Somalia. In its resolution 2093 (2013), the Council partially lifted the arms embargo for the development of the security forces of the Federal Government of Somalia.

5. In its resolution 1907 (2009), the Security Council imposed a two-way arms embargo on Eritrea, as well as targeted measures (a travel ban, an asset freeze and a targeted arms embargo) on individuals and entities designated by the Committee. The Council expanded the mandate of the Committee to enable it to oversee the implementation of those measures. The Monitoring Group, the name of which was changed to the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group, was mandated to monitor, investigate and report on the implementation of the measures imposed in resolution 1907 (2009). In the same resolution, the Council also introduced certain exemptions to the targeted measures. On 5 December 2011, the Council adopted its resolution 2023 (2011), by which it expanded the restrictive measures concerning Eritrea in the areas of the "diaspora tax", the Eritrean mining sector and financial services.

6. In 2014, the Security Council renewed the partial lifting of the arms embargo for the development of the security forces of the Federal Government of Somalia on two occasions: in resolution 2142 (2014), for a period of six months, and in resolution 2182 (2014), until 30 October 2015. In its resolution 2182 (2014), the Council authorized, for a period of 12 months, Member States acting nationally or through voluntary multinational naval partnerships, such as "combined maritime forces", to interdict charcoal and arms being transported in violation of the sanctions measures in Somali territorial waters and on the high seas off the coast of Somalia, extending to and including the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf. The Council renewed the

partial lifting of the arms embargo for the development of the security forces of the Federal Government of Somalia and the authorization for the maritime interdiction of arms and Somali charcoal in its resolutions 2244 (2015), 2317 (2016) and 2385 (2017), most recently until 15 November 2018.

7. The mandate of the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group, consisting of eight experts, was last extended in resolution 2385 (2017), until 15 December 2018.

8. Further background information on the Somalia and Eritrea sanctions regimes can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

9. The Committee met four times in informal consultations, on 20 January, 21 April, 2 October and 13 October, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures. The Committee also held joint informal consultations on 30 June with the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities.

10. During the informal consultations held on 20 January, the Chair introduced to the Committee the newly appointed Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group. On 21 April, the Coordinator of the Monitoring Group provided the Group's midterm update to the Committee, in accordance with paragraph 40 of resolution 2317 (2016).

11. During the joint informal consultations of 30 June, the Committee received a briefing from the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development on the threat of transnational terrorism in the region.

12. During the informal consultations held on 2 October, the Committee received a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator on the report submitted pursuant to paragraph 29 of Security Council resolution 2317 (2016) (S/2017/860).

13. During the informal consultations held on 13 October, the Committee heard a presentation by the Monitoring Group on its final reports on Somalia and Eritrea, submitted pursuant to paragraph 40 of Security Council resolution 2317 (2016), and discussed the recommendations contained therein. The Committee also heard from the delegations of Somalia and Eritrea.

14. On 13 April, 24 July and 7 November, the Chair presented to the Security Council the 120-day briefings on the work of the Committee, pursuant to paragraph 11 (g) of resolution 1844 (2008).

15. On 11 September 2017, the Chair convened a meeting between the Government of Eritrea and the Monitoring Group. The purpose of the meeting was to enable the Group to discuss its preliminary findings with the Government of Eritrea prior to the Group's submission of its final reports to the Committee and to provide the Government of Eritrea with an opportunity to respond to those findings.

16. The reports of the Federal Government of Somalia submitted to the Security Council pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 2317 (2016) were circulated to the Committee on 30 March and 3 October, respectively.

17. The Committee sent 26 communications to 10 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

IV. Exemptions

18. Exemptions to the arms embargoes on Somalia and Eritrea are contained in paragraphs 7, 10 (g), 11 (a) and 12 of resolution 2111 (2013), paragraph 4 of resolution 2142 (2014) and paragraph 2 of resolution 2385 (2017). Further Council requirements related to the partial lifting of the arms embargo for the Federal Government of Somalia are contained in paragraphs 6 and 7 of resolution 2142 (2014).

19. Exemptions to the asset freeze on Somalia are contained in paragraph 4 of resolution 1844 (2008)and those on Eritrea in paragraph 14 of resolution 1907 (2009).

20. Exemptions to the travel ban on Somalia are contained in paragraph 2 of resolution 1844 (2008)and those on Eritrea in paragraph 11 of resolution 1907 (2009).

21. The Committee received 14 notifications pursuant to paragraph 10 (g) of resolution 2111 (2013). The Committee also received 3 notifications pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2317 (2016), 2 notifications pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 2142 (2014) and 2 communications pursuant to paragraphs 6 and 7 of resolution 2142 (2014). Furthermore, the Committee approved 1 request pursuant to paragraph 11 (a) of resolution 2111 (2013).

V. Sanctions list

22. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban, asset freeze and targeted arms embargo for the Somalia sanctions regime are set out in paragraph 8 of resolution 1844 (2008), paragraph 1 of resolution 2002 (2011), paragraph 23 of resolution 2036 (2012), paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolution 2060 (2012) and paragraph 43 of resolution 2093 (2013). The criteria for the Eritrea sanctions regime are set out in paragraph 15 of resolution 1907 (2009). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

23. As at the end of the reporting period, there were 13 individuals and one entity on the sanctions list of the Committee pertaining to Somalia and no names on the sanctions list of the Committee pertaining to Eritrea.

VI. Monitoring Group

24. On 21 April, in accordance with paragraph 40 of Security Council resolution 2317 (2016), the Monitoring Group provided its comprehensive midterm update to the Committee. On 2 October, in accordance with the same paragraph, the Monitoring Group provided its final reports on Somalia and on Eritrea to the Committee, which were transmitted to the Council on 2 November and issued as documents of the Council (S/2017/924 and S/2017/925, respectively). In accordance with its mandate, the Group also provided monthly updates to the Committee.

25. On 21 December, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2385 (2017), the Secretary-General appointed eight individuals to serve in the Monitoring Group, with expertise in arms (two experts), armed groups/maritime, armed groups, finance, humanitarian affairs, natural resources and regional issues (see S/2017/1116). The mandate of the Group expires on 15 December 2018.

26. The Monitoring Group conducted visits to Bahrain, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Ethiopia, France, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Qatar, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Turkey, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates,

the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. In Somalia, members of the Group undertook visits to Baidoa, Bosaso, Gaalkacyo, Garoowe, Hargeysa, Kismaayo, Mogadishu and Qandala.

27. In pursuance of its mandate, the Monitoring Group, through the Secretariat, sent 134 letters to Member States, the Security Council, the Committee and international and national entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

28. The Security Council Affairs Division provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and the members of the Committee. Advisory support was also provided to Member States to promote understanding of the sanctions regimes and facilitate the implementation of the sanctions measures. Induction briefings were also provided to incoming members of the Council to familiarize them with the specific issues relevant to the sanctions regimes.

29. To support the Committee in its recruitment of well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 11 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for membership in the roster of experts. In addition, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 16 August notifying them of upcoming vacancies in the Monitoring Group and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements.

30. The Division continued to provide support to the Monitoring Group, conducting an induction for newly appointed members and assisting in the preparation of the Group's midterm update submitted in April and its final reports submitted in October.

31. The Monitoring Group participated in the fifth annual inter-panel coordination workshop, held in New York on 5 and 6 December, organized by the Secretariat. On 7 and 8 December, the Division, in cooperation with United Nations system partners, conducted a workshop on investigative interview techniques for 10 experts from sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels. Two members of the Monitoring Group participated in the workshop.

32. The Secretariat continued to update and maintain the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List and the Committee-specific sanctions lists in the six official languages and the three technical formats. Furthermore, the Secretariat implemented improvements concerning the effective utilization of and access to sanctions lists, including through the creation of links within list entries, as appropriate, to INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices, as well as the development in English of the data model approved in 2011 by the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, as requested by the Security Council in paragraph 48 of resolution 2253 (2015).